

SARL NEWS - SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2009

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In the news today:

PRESIDENT S SPEECH

PUBLICATION OF REVISED RADIO REGULATIONS IMMINENT

2009 RTA PROGRAMME

SARL AWARDS

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and int

PRESIDENT S SPEECH

What follows is a condensed version of the speech made by the President of the SARL, Rassie. Rassie pointed out that this year the SARL celebrates its eighty fifth birthday and that dur Rassie said that amateur radio is a comprehensive hobby which offers many opportunities for He pointed out that once again we are standing at a crossroad and asked whether every radio Rassie said that as we probably all know by now the ANC will lead the government in South A

The ANC and its Government should ensure that the allocation of spectrum - which is a scarce national public resource - must contribute to the promotion of national interests, development and diversity. This should involve increasing the amount of spectrum and licenses dedicated to public use; for example, community radio and TV and mobile technologies. It is quite clear that the frequency spectrum allocated to amateur radio must contribute to National interest. A senior official of the Department of Communications said some time ago that amateur radio falls within the category of community radio since our Hamnet emergency communication makes a large contribution to the community when it is most needed. Rassie said that we do not need to do anything additional to what we are already doing, but we must just do more of it. Thus for the next year Council has planned to: Expand our activities, to create a greater understanding of what amateur radio is and how it contributes to the country, not just in terms of disaster communication, but also the value in the classroom to develop the interest of learners into Science, Engineering and Technology. To continue to experiment with new technologies and contribute to the country's body of knowledge. Three of our programmes address these issues directly: the Public Information Network, the Radio Technology in Action Programme and Amateur Radio Seminar for Public Officials Rassie asked that we increase our attendance of the RTA's and that we support the Public Information Network. Whilst all the planning for the on the air activities, such as for the 2010 World Soccer Cup and the 2011 IARU Conference, are being done, he appeals to all radio amateurs to join the National Body for Amateur Radio and devote some

of your time and expertise to make the programmes work. He said he is sure it is the correct road and asked whether he can rely on you?

PUBLICATION OF REVISED RADIO REGULATIONS IMMINENT

ICASA has confirmed that the final draft of the Government Gazette was submitted to the ICASA

LAST CHANCE TO ENTER THE 2009 CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

The closing date for entries in the 2009 Construction competition has been extended to 28 April

2009 RTA PROGRAMME WILL BLOW YOU AWAY

Full details of the RTA programme have been published on the SARL web. It is one of the annual events. Entrance fee is only R30 which includes entry in the attendance prize competition. The main

AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE SARL

During the dinner last night services rendered to amateur radio, or through it to the community

Honorary Life Membership the SARL's highest honour to Henry Chamberlain, ZS1AAZ.

Willie Wilson Gold Badge for the amateur that gave exceptional and meritorious service to the League to Francois Botha, ZS6BUU, for his work as Hamnet Manager and his support to the SARL office.

Jack Twine Merit Award which recognises qualities such as unselfishness, clean operating and a genuine interest in Amateur Radio and its affairs and who, in the opinion of their fellow amateurs and the League's Council, exemplify the qualities desirable in a Radio Amateur to: ZS4TX ZS4U ZS4S ZS4JAN The award is for the work that these amateurs did with the establishment of the ZS9X contest station and the international reputation that it achieved.

Icom Excellence Award, the "premier" award of the SARL. To Andre Botes, ZS2ACP and Paul Smit, ZS6NK, for their work on 4 m Meteor Scatter - they made the first 4 m MS QSO outside of Europe as well as setting the meteor scatter record and distance record in South Africa.

President's Award to Bert Howes, ZS6HS for being a SARL member for more than 70 years. He is to be awarded a gold pen at the coming RTA at the NARC.

The Hamnet Shield, a new award, went to Glenham Duffy, ZS5GD, for his support of the 84 Signal Units, HF relays, assisting in operation of the Joint Operations Centre in Durban and the key role he played in the development of HAMNET training modules.

Arthur Hemsley 2 metre Trophy for extraordinary performance on EME or modes such as Tropospheric propagation. It is not for the longest distance worked but rather for persistence in achieving something special on 2 metres, awarded to Glenn Kraut, ZS2GK, for his contact with Philippe Mondon, FR5DN.

Joseph White Plaque for exceptional achievements in the 432 MHz band during the past year awarded to Willem Badenhorst, ZS6WAB, for his 70 cm EME and Tropo activity.

Bert Buckley Six metre Trophy for individual achievements with transmissions in the six metre amateur band awarded to Paul Smit, ZS6NK, for the his QRP (100 W and single yagi) 6 m EME QSO with W7GJ.

Radio ZS Shield for best support of Radio ZS during the year awarded to Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV.

JJ Pienaar Trophy for the best article published in Radio ZS during the past year went to Vidi La Grange, ZS1EL for his articles on modifying the “Force 12” antennas .

Gary Immelman RA Heritage Award Floating Trophy and a gold pen, for the best article of an historic nature to Dennis Wells, ZS1AU, for his series “These Really were the Good Old Days” in Radio ZS.

Arland Ussher Gold Pen Award for the highest marks in the RAE awarded to Carol Defty, ZS1MOM, who achieved an average of 95% in the May 2008 RAE.

SARL HF Contest Awards

The following floating trophies are currently presented annually at the SARL AGM. They are awarded to the various category winners of the annual SARL HF Contests.

Silent Keys Memorial Trophy SSB for the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual HF Phone Contest went to Gary Potgieter, ZS5NK.

Silent Keys Memorial Trophy CW for the highest score achieved during the annual HF CW Contest went to Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR.

Joseph White Trophy for the highest score achieved on any one band, during the annual HF Phone Contest awarded to Jan Botha, ZS4JAN.

Fred Mills Trophy for achieving the highest score during the annual HF Phone/CW Contest and never having won a SARL HF Contest Trophy before awarded to Pierre van Deventer, ZS6BQS.

Anon Trophy for the amateur who achieved the highest score on any one band, during the annual HF CW Contest to Vidi La Grange, ZS1EL.

HOS Trough for the amateur who achieved the highest aggregate score in both annual HF Contests to Jan Botha, ZS4JAN.

The Club Participation Award for the Club who achieves the highest participation in both annual HF CW and Phone Contests went to the Bloemfontein Radio Amateur Club, ZS4BFN.

CONTEST NEWS

The contest committee has released the results of the first leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contest

Multi-operator station: 1st Magalies Radio Amateur Club, ZS6MRK, 21 077 points; 2nd John Vorster Technology School Radio Club, ZS6JVT, 4 739 points.

Single Operator station: 1st Johan van Aarde, ZS2I, 2 811 points; 2nd Marius Preston, ZS4MP, 2 008 points; 3rd Tienie Herbst, ZS6 MHH, 1 285 points; 4th Bert Howes, ZS6HS, 413 points; 5th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 165 points.

The first ZS3 Sprint will be on the air on Sunday 3 May from 16:00 to 17:00 CAT with phone and CW.
CLUB NEWS

The Sasolburg Radio Club is hosting a fox hunt on Saturday the 2nd of May. Hunters meet at 08:00.

The Northern Cape Amateur Radio Club will on 2 and 3 May operate a field radio station at the request of the Northern Cape Voortrekkers. The Voortrekkers will in the evenings be offered the opportunity to experience amateur radio; listen for ZS3NC and speak to a voortrekker.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be very low. The geomagnetic index is low. The imminent change of season with less energy from the sun reaching the Southern ionosphere means that 10 MHz is looking promising late afternoon and after dark for the CW and digital enthusiasts. Local conditions are going to be good on 40 m during the day time. 80 m may perform well during the evenings. 80 m is the frequency of choice in the evenings. Unfortunately the static noise levels are still high. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF has the capability to pleasantly surprise. Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS 28 April Last day to enrol for the 2009 construction competition; 1 and 2 May Voortrekker camp ZS3NC on the air; 2 May West Rand flea market; 2 May Sasolburg fox hunt; 3 May - ZS3 Sprint; 9 May RTA at the NARC; 15 May Closing date for SARDT award nominations.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and the public.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the Amateur Radio Mirror International programme every Sunday.

You have listened to a bulletin of the South African Radio League, compiled by George, ZS6NE.

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